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*Admitted only in Maryland
•Admitted only in Virginia
•Practice Limited to
Federal Agencies

August 21, 2003

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Art Unit 1744

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/986,751; Filed: November 9, 2001
For: **Apparatuses and Methods for Cleaning Test Probes**
Inventor: Gary W. Grube
Our Ref: 2026.0010000/MVM/GSB

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated **July 23, 2003**, transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

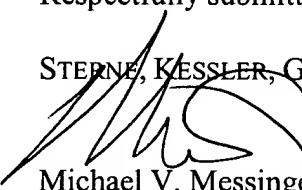
1. Reply to Requirement for Election of Species; and
2. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.


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SKGF_DCI:170359.1

MVM/GSB:krh

Enclosures